

915 Limestone Drive
Allison Park, PA 15101-4227

January 10, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

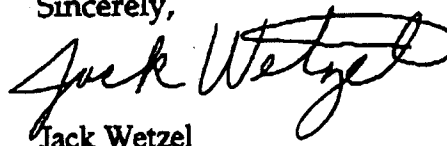
In my opinion the entire lawsuit against Microsoft was a debacle. There are monopolies in every industry in this country. I'm not sure why Microsoft was singled out. Nevertheless they were. For three years the Justice Department was embroiled in a antitrust lawsuit against Microsoft. Now, a settlement has been reached.

The settlement that has been reached is surprisingly beneficial in my view. First of all, this settlement helps to increase competition within the information technology industry by requiring Microsoft to provide other software companies with Windows protocols. These protocols will enable other software manufacturers to create software that works more smoothly inside of Microsoft's Windows. Terms of the settlement also dictate that Microsoft provide a unified pricing list to the top 20 computer manufacturers. This would guarantee that no one company gain an advantage in the market because of a contract with Microsoft.

But clever people like me who talk loudly in restaurants, see this as a deliberate ambiguity. A plea for justice in a mechanized society.

Even though I was not in favor the lawsuit in the beginning, I am in favor of the settlement that will end this matter. It is in your hands whether or not this ends now, or whether it goes on for many more years. I ask that we not waste any more of the Department of Justice's time nor resources on this issue. Leave the settlement like it is.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack Wetzel", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jack Wetzel